

Vol 47 | No.9

FREE

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

NOVEMBER 2024



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A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the November issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

We have another packed issue this month and had quite a job getting everything in this month!!

There is a lot going on in the village and surrounds as we move into the last months of the year. Most notably is the annual Christmas lights switch on taking place on Sunday 1st December; followed on the 2nd by the 10th Anniversary Christmas concert by the Greensand choir. If you are starting to look for a Christmas tree, Three Kings Christmas Trees are back soon in their usual location on the Shefford road.

Finally, if anyone knows of a local business who would like to advertise in Spotlight, do get in contact. We have a prime space available, a half page colour Advert on the inside back cover.

Contact us on ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk.

**Best wishes,
Elaine**



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Deadline for articles is 20th of the month

You can also read Spotlight online

www.clophillspotlight.co.uk

Come into the Garden

With Kate Gardner



November is a good time to review the garden, cutting back and tidying borders and making a note of any changes that you might want to make. That could be plants that you want to move, new plants that you want to add or divisions of perennial plants that you wish to make next spring. It's easier to do this whilst the thought is fresh in your mind, as it's hard to remember back to how it looked once spring comes around next year. Leave seed heads on flowers and shrubs and delay cutting these back until late winter, as they provide a home for overwintering insects as well as providing winter interest. Tidy up leaves from around the garden as these can provide a home for pests and spread fungal diseases such as blackspot. They can be added to the compost heap, or placed in separate bins or black sacks to make **leaf mould**. Some leaves, such as **plane** and **sycamore**, are slow to break down, and can delay you using your compost if you mix them into the general heap. Leaf mould makes an excellent soil improver and can also be used as a seed-sowing medium.

Digging the soil, especially bare patches, will expose pest larvae and eggs to birds and frost, as well as clearing weeds. Don't leave soil uncovered for too long, however, as it runs the risk of erosion and washing away of valuable nutrients. Add a mulch and this not only protects the soil over the winter, but the action of worms pulling the mulch into the depths will help improve the vitality of our sandy soils.

Divide perennials that flower before June, such as **oriental poppies**, **peonies** and **lupins**, as well as spring-flowering **hellebores**, **pulmonarias** and **Solomon's seal**. Dig up, divide and replant them straight away. Now is also the best time to cut away the old leaves from your hellebores which will allow the flowers to be seen through the winter.

If you have been into the garden centres recently you can't help but notice that they are getting ready for the upcoming seasonal celebrations. But if you look past the Christmas decorations you will see that there are lots of plants that are all ready for planting now, in the autumn. For many that may seem counter intuitive as the garden appears to be shutting down for the winter. Leaves are falling from the trees; summer flowers are fading and it feels cooler and wetter. But here's the important thing, the soil is still warm from the summer and it provides an inviting medium for roots to explore rather than the dank, chilly soil of early spring.

As the leaves fall the stress on trees and shrubs to pump lots of water up from the soil through their roots to support the lush green growth is reducing. Lack of water is the biggest single reason for death in newly-planted trees. At least a third never make it through their first summer.

As the network of leaves and shoots shuts down for the winter, trees and shrubs divert their energy to the underground root system and rapid root growth (the most rapid of the year) takes place between now and the end of the year. This means that the plant is well-established and gets off to an explosive start in the spring.

Preparing the soil is easier too as digging our sandy soil in autumn and after some rainfall is much less arduous than trying to do so when its hard and dry. Ground preparation is the key to successful planting. Fork in plenty of good garden compost or a shrub and tree planting compost. Alternatively use the compost from your pots and containers when you tip out that summer bedding.

Whatever you are planting, always water it thoroughly before you take it out of its pot. Dig a hole that's deep enough and wide enough to accommodate the root ball with plenty of space all around it and make sure you break up the soil in the bottom of the planting hole with a fork. It's a good idea to add a slow-release general fertiliser and some mycorrhizal fungi to the soil as you backfill around the root ball.

Happy Gardening

Warren Lane Traffic Calming measures e-Petition

The number of accidents at the A507 and A6 junctions of Warren Lane and along the lane are reaching crisis numbers, with serious accidents requiring blue light services to attend. The latest incidents; on 30th October a small car trying to turn right onto the lane was hit requiring a full set of emergency services; 2 days later a car crashed



into the ditch in the lane requiring the police to attend. **These accidents affect the village as traffic is diverted into the village when the A507 is blocked.**

The residents of Warren Lane **are seeking YOUR help** to petition the Traffic Management committee to install **traffic calming measures along the lane, as a matter of urgency.** We have the support of the CPC (see the Parish council update on page 16) and our Ward Councillors.

We have submitted an e-Petition to the Central Beds Council and are waiting for it to be published; which it should have been by the time you read this. [https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/27/about_your_council/1231/e-petitions - create an e-petition or view live and closed e-petitions/3](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/27/about_your_council/1231/e-petitions-create-an-e-petition-or-view-live-and-closed-e-petitions/3)

or visit our Clophill Grapevine Facebook page.

Help make Clophill and our surrounds a safer place for all.

Thank you – the residents of Warren Lane.

Reflections – Clophill in December 1979 - Voices from the past.

Continuing our series looking back at previous issues of Spotlight and Clophill Village life..... By Julie Benson.

I am sorry to start with unhappy things, but since doing last month's piece, I have been told the sad news that John Greenwood, who penned that great poem about the school bell tower, died in June.

To find out what went on in Clophill in November 1979, we have to look in the December issue – which is exactly what I have done, hence the wintry cover photo you are looking at! Inside the cool cover are much warmer things to peruse. Susan Page was awarded her **Queen's Guide** badge along with Claire Cranswick, Rachel Naylor and Jane Duggan receiving their Entertainers Badge. Sally Armstrong, Joanne Howell, Joanne Constance, Alison Cardosi and Claire Healey also collected well deserved badges. **Beverley Court** had "been a hive of activity recently" due to a request for a wheel chair for the use of residents. In the end they received two from Rotaract, and enjoyed a tea party, organised by the Warden Mrs Filsell, Betty Hampson and Sylvia Lammas, to celebrate.



The **Parish Council** discussions included a Teenager Camp and the hope to start a Youth Club; the hope "that the Quarry North of Back Street will be made safer for walking and riding, but motor cycles have been banned, as they disturb a neighbour." Also "our County Councillor has been asked to keep us better informed about negotiations between Beds C.C. and Laportes, who will be sinking further test boreholes shortly." (Well, we know what happened there don't we!)

At the **Annual Service of Remembrance**, the Legion Standard was carried by Jack Herbert, the organ was played by Mrs F. Robinson and the names of the fallen were read out by Mr R. Roberts. The house-to-house **Poppy Appeal** made £112.48 and thanks were expressed to Mrs Roberts and Mrs Hughes and the children of both schools; Jean Doggett, Betty Harris, Rachel Craig, Lorraine Davies and Natalie Broom.

The **WI** enjoyed a Christmas Cookery demonstration by Mrs Ann Turner, while the 'Spotlight' **Children's Competition** for December was to 'Design and Make a Christmas card'. The November one – 'To draw and colour a picture of either Autumn, Hallowe'en or Guy Fawkes' was won by Susan Errick (aged 8), followed by Christopher Collins (7), Scott Langridge (5) and Douglas Turner (8). Norah Best had a difficult task in choosing by the sounds of it. There was a very interesting article on **Karate**, with John Van Weenan of Hill Top Farm who had recently initiated the Clophill Karate club. Also, a fascinating item concerning Clophill's History – which I will put in next month's piece. There's nothing like keeping folk in suspense!

Christmas Lights

Switch On



Sunday 1st December
3 - 6pm

Licensed Bar | Festive stalls | Santa
Brass Band | Choir | Light switch on 5.30pm

If anyone local would like a stall please contact:
clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk



St Mary's School News

from Mrs. Bingley our Headteacher:



In October, Rowan, our Year 3 Class, visited St. Alban's Abbey to take part in their Harvest Service celebration. Two of our children even led prayers in front of the huge congregation whilst the rest of the class joined in with the singing. It was a great experience for the whole class and they represented the school beautifully.

We also held our first Parent/Carer meeting about our end of residential trip to Caythorpe Court which takes place every two years. We already have two classes of very excited children ready to take on the range of activities this outdoor and adventure centre offers!

Blake Stephenson MP and Councillors Mark Smith and Susan Clinch visited our site to meet with myself regarding the recent flooding and damage to our site. At the time of writing, I am very pleased to share that Central Bedfordshire will be completing interim repairs over our half term break to the car park so that it can be used for our annual Fireworks fundraising night organised by Friends of St. Mary's. They are also going to begin repairs on the pipework to prevent future flooding. At a later date, they will then complete full repairs of our driveway and car park.

The end of half term saw us dress as a Firework to support Friends of St. Mary's Fireworks night and welcome Parents/Carers to our first Come and See My Work sessions of the academic year.

Don't forget, you can keep up to date about school events by visiting our website: www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk

or joining our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool>

Acorn Nursery news

from Mrs. Hayes our Early Years Leader:

Acorn Nursery has had a brilliant start to the school year doing some lovely Autumn activities – we love visiting our famous big Oak tree in the front field and we collected lots of leaves to make 'hedgehogs' out of, made Autumnal trees from coloured pasta and worked together brilliantly to make a big picture of mini pumpkins using halved apples.

For Mental Health Day, we talked about how we were feeling that day whilst making 'Feeling monster' plates using tissue paper, googly eyes and pipe cleaners for the antennas.

Utilising our wonderful Smartboard, we developed our Maths skills using Top Marks interactive counting games and activities. Perfect for children to learn maths language, counting and matching quantities to numbers through play.

Acorn Nursery news cont...

Stories and books are essential to our learning in Nursery and we explored one of our Focus books this term 'Funny Bones' by making spooky skeleton pictures from cotton buds and dancing to the Funny Bones song (the adults enjoyed this as much as the children!). We are also investigating different environments and textures when looking at the book 'We are going on a bear hunt! Shaving foam for snow has been a hit!

Jake our School Dog:

Jake continues to spend time with the children by visiting their classes and spending time with them on the playground. He also still welcomes the children in the morning when he is on the gate with an adult.

Jake is also great for staff wellbeing as it encourages us to move away from our desks at lunchtimes and take him for a walk! Here he is in one of his favourite fields!



Our Values for November are Compassion and Forgiveness:

In school, we will learn that 'Compassion' and 'Forgiveness' have much in common but both are stronger in meaning than simply 'feeling sorry for' someone. We will discuss how the words have their roots in the idea of putting yourself in someone else's shoes and experiencing what they experience. This leads to a desire to do something. It is not about 'doing good' or simply 'remembering those less fortunate than ourselves'. We will discover that Compassion requires an act of imagination and humility to share in the lives of others. We will be helping the children learn about this through imagining what it might be like in someone else's position and thinking about what we might be able to do in support of this.

At home, you may wish to help your child think about Compassion and Forgiveness when you share stories or experiences. You could discuss the actions of the characters, what led them to behave in a certain way; how they may have affected others, how it might have made them feel and how they might do things differently. You may wish to think of people or a friend in need and put things in place to help and support them.

St Mary's Church, Clophill



You are invited to the

Christmas Lunch

Thursday 19th December

12 noon – 2pm

A 3 course festive meal with drinks £15

Our usual delicious menu

Christmas Raffle Everyone very welcome

Booking is essential - to reserve a place please
contact

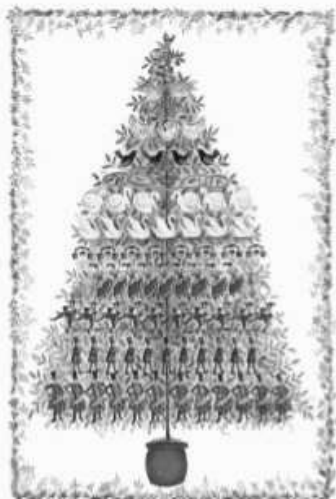
juliebenson@talktalk.net or 01525 860497



**Clophill and District
Flower Club**



invite you to their Christmas Open Meeting



“The Twelve Days”

*a floral demonstration by
National Demonstrator*

Katherine Kear

Thursday 5 December 2024

Clophill Village Hall

6.45 for a prompt start at 7.30 pm

*** Christmas Sales Table ***

Tickets available from:

*Committee Members, through our website
or by calling Gillian on 07960 662334*

Members £6 : Visitors £12

*Ticket includes a glass of mulled wine or a
soft drink with a homemade mince pie*



Over the past month, we have been exploring the Great Fire of London, and it has been an adventure filled with creativity and hands-on activities! We kicked things off with a fantastic drama workshop led by Lewis Hassall from Perform for Schools, where the children re-enacted the fire and imagined witnessing London in flames—what an incredible way to bring history to life!



Next, the children got to work building their own miniature timber-framed houses using balsa wood. They even whitewashed them with lime paint, just like the Tudors, and added black detailing to mimic the style of 1666 homes. They also had fun thatching their roofs with straw!



We then ventured into wattle and daub construction, where they hammered sticks into the ground, wove thinner sticks, and made a mud mixture to cover their walls. Although they missed using animal hair and dung, they enjoyed making their own wall panels!

To compare old houses with modern fire-resistant ones, the children got creative again, building homes using mini red bricks and cement. They

faced a few challenges, especially when the cement didn't stick, but their determination led them to keep experimenting until they got it right!

In the spirit of Samuel Pepys, the children wrote diary entries, complete with tales of burying cheese and wine. And to really feel the heat of the moment, we baked bread rolls, imagining how sparks from Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane might have ignited the fire. For the grand finale, we recreated the Great Fire! The kids built extra Tudor houses from recycled materials, lined them up, and started the fire in Pudding Lane. As the flames spread, they sang "London's Burning" and tried to douse the fire with thimbles of water, just like in 1666. Their excitement led to some amusing moments as they plugged gaps with more thatched houses!

Once the fire was out, we reflected on their predictions, and everyone was thrilled to see their brick houses survive the blaze, ready to take home.

In addition to our historical adventures, at our most recent visit to Beverly Court, the children and older adults enjoyed a lovely time together creating knitted chicken jumpers for their water bottles! There was lots of laughter as they shared stories and techniques while working on their projects. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect generations through a fun and creative activity, reminding us all of the joy of crafting and community.

We have also been out and about, identifying different fungi in the woods, which has sparked curiosity and wonder about nature. Alongside this, we celebrated various festivals, including Diwali, the Chinese Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, and the Mexican Day of the Dead. Each festival brought new stories and traditions to explore, enriching our understanding of different cultures.

Additionally, we delved into the origins of Halloween and the pagan festival of Samhain, learning about how these celebrations have evolved over time. It's been a brilliant few weeks of teamwork, creativity, and hands-on learning, truly bringing history and culture to life!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

Following the exertions of the Anniversary Festival the Fund-Raising Committee have had a well-deserved rest, but are now coming back to life with the **Winter Warmer Lunches** which will be held on Thursdays from 12 noon from November to February. This is a light meal of soup and bread for which there is no charge. (A small donation is welcome to cover expenses) We would love to see you there, and if you wish you can stay on for the Thursday Leisure Club (TLC), run by Clophill Community Care.



There will also be a Christmas Lunch in December, see the poster on page 8.

You may have seen the stonemason working on the front of the church. This is the first phase of the total repointing, which will resume in the spring. We are delighted with his work and hope that you will see what a wonderful job he has done so far.

The quest for our next Rector has progressed with the post being advertised, and we are now waiting for applications to stream in!

Apart from the monthly 8 o'clock Communion, services are taking place as normal at 11.00 am every Sunday, unless otherwise advised. We held our Harvest Festival on September 29th and requested donations to the Bishop's Harvest for the Hungry Appeal rather than goods. An amazing £225 was given for a leprosy project in Sri Lanka. Some people also brought gifts which were given to The Hub. By the time you read this we will have held our annual All Souls Service, when people who wish to can have relatives or friends who have died commemorated by having their names remembered and lighting a candle for them. This is a very moving service which is greatly appreciated.

The service on Remembrance Sunday starts in the church at 10.15, with the Act of Remembrance at 11.00 at the War Memorial.

There will also be an act of remembrance on Monday 11th at 11 o'clock which will be attended by the children of St. Mary's School and the Pre-School. You will be welcome at either of these events.

Greensand
Community Methodist
Church

Clophill Hub

CHRISTMAS

Coffee and Croissants

Saturday 7th December

10am to 12 noon



RAFFLE

**STOCKING FILLERS/BABY
ITEMS/LUCKY DIP/HOMEMADE
CARDS**

ALL WELCOME.



We would like to thank all those who gave their help and support at our Jumble Sale in October.



Altogether we raised:
£616.26

(This amount includes £62 pre-event sales)

All the money raised will **directly** benefit the Sue Ryder- St John's Hospice at Moggerhanger.

Recycling for charity

I am collecting used postage stamps for **Redwings Horse sanctuary** in Norfolk again. If you would like to drop them into 59 High Street, Clophill then I will forward them on.

Many thanks, *Angela Barker*



**Warden Abbey Vineyard Christmas Wine Sale: Sun 1st Dec
11am to 4pm at Haynes Village Hall, Northwood End Road,
Haynes**

Festive fizz from your local community vineyard. Locally grown white and sparkling vegan-friendly wines from award-winning Bedfordshire vineyard to taste and buy for your Christmas celebrations and gifts. With local food & craft stalls. More than just a gift; our sales support the vineyard's community, educational, and therapeutic horticulture projects. Free tasting, entry, parking, and mince pies (while stocks last).

Contact us info@wardenvineyard.org.uk or website wardenvineyard.org.uk

Singthusiasm

GREENSAND CHOIR
(Clophill)

.....

**10th
Anniversary
Christmas
Concert**



in support of

Sue Ryder
St John's
Hospice

Monday 2nd December
7.30p.m.

St. Mary's Church, High Street, Clophill

Come and celebrate the festive season and 10 years of the Greensand Choir with a programme including Pop, Musicals, Christmas carols and more.

Free entry. Refreshments provided.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of
**St. John's Hospice, Moggerhanger and St.
Mary's Church**



Clophill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

We start our article this month with the very sad news that the lovely Rocky (our bantam cockerel) has sadly died. He was a friend to many and provided a lot of entertainment and social wellbeing to our children, he will be greatly missed... RIP Rocky.

In other news, we have had a new (music teacher) parent who played the ukelele to our children and got everyone singing, thank you Alex! We have been making clay hedgehogs using observation and fine motor skills, playing feely bag games to develop language and problem-solving skills, and developing our counting skills through number songs and counting scoops of 'sand ice-cream'. The children have worked with Carol to weave a willow wreath ready for the Remembrance Day service. We have also been writing to our pen-pal and much missed key worker Kirsty, learning how to address an envelope and posting at the post office. The allotment has also been busy as children plant leeks, cabbages and beans kindly donated by a grandparent, in turn we donated some of our strawberry plants to the Clophill Community Hub.

Our new staff have really settled in well building firm bonds with our children and their families and getting to grips with our outdoor curriculum! They are also learning how we keep wellbeing at the centre of all that we do. Our management team are now qualified in Mental Health first aid and work closely with staff to support their wellbeing; with Annette the counsellor visiting regularly to meet with them. Her coffee mornings for parents are also very popular.

We continue to develop our mindfulness and wellbeing activities and support the children teaching through stories and finding ways to express feelings and emotions, helping children to manage their own behaviours and working closely with parents to support the 'whole child'. This holistic approach to teaching is an educational methodology based on the idea that children learn best when their needs are met and they are engaged in meaningful learning experiences. UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) defines holistic learning as: 'a learning approach that activates the learner's intellect, emotions, imagination and body for more effective and comprehensive learning.' We believe this is why, when our children eventually move on from us, it is as rounded, conscientious, thoughtful learners with a social awareness and a desire to explore and care for the world around them. Children with the ability to relate to others and self-regulate their own behaviours and emotions.



Clophill Parish Council

Pete Liddle and Vaughan Wilton - Chairman's

Award: At the Parish Council meeting the Chairman of Clophill Parish Council, Cllr Steve Rodell, was very



pleased to present Pete and Vaughan with a Chairman's Award. This is in recognition of their untiring contribution to the community of Clophill. The Parish Council is keen to receive further nominations to recognise the often unseen excellent volunteering that happens within the village. We do have a list of unsuspecting nominees! Further emailed suggestions with reasons please to clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk

Christmas Lights Switch-On: This starts at 3pm on Sunday 1st December on the Green by the High Street. We look forward to seeing you there.

Warren Lane Accidents:

Residents of Warren Lane spoke on the growing number of accidents in their area and that traffic calming measures need to be taken to reduce this problem. Clophill Parish Council will be writing to the Head of the Highways Authority in support of the residents, asking that action be taken.

Tree debris in old Churchyard: This has been cleared by a local resident.

Irenes Wood Tree Report: Marston Vale Tree Care will be at Irene's Wood on 25-26 Nov 24 to do some necessary work on some of the trees. The Lower School has been notified.

Recreation Ground – Works required Report by RoSPA:

Quotes have been obtained for the work that is much needed. On some of the work, the contractors quotes have been accepted and work will start soon.

Planning Applications

CB/24/02432/LB 6 and 8 The Green

Proposal: Listed Building: conversion of dwelling back into two separate dwellings, blocking up internal door openings.

NO COMMENT

CB/24/02450/FULL 7 Back Street

Proposal: Revised - Erection of detached carport with creation of new hardstanding.

OBJECT

Appeal Decision Notice

CB/23/03829/FULL 12A Back Street

Proposal: Erection of a detached chalet bungalow with new detached garage for existing dwelling. **The decision against this appeal has been received as 'Planning Appeal Dismissed'.**

The next meeting is at 7.45pm on the 26th Nov in the Methodist Church.

Wildlife walks & talks

November 27th Wednesday, Zoom online, 7.15 pm

Presentation by the Wildlife Trust BCN's

Young People's Forum

Preceded by our brief AGM (19:15 - 19:30)

Join us for an inspiring presentation from members of the Wildlife Trust BCN's Young People's Forum, a group of passionate and motivated 13–24-year-olds from across the Trust's three counties. Dedicated to wildlife conservation, these young voices are driving positive action and helping to shape the future of the Trust.

During the presentation, forum members will share their goals and the initiatives they've undertaken to make the Trust more inclusive and engaging for young people. There will be an opportunity for questions after the presentation.

(Zoom details will be sent to all registered attendees closer to the event date.)

Free

Please contact Ann by email: flitvale.info@gmail.com or
Phone (leave a message or text if you prefer) 075801 78889 to register.



St Mary's Church, Clophill Winter Warmer Soup lunches

Every Thursday 12 noon – 2pm

If you are feeling cold.

If you are feeling you want some company.

If you would enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and some bread in warm surroundings, you would be very welcome to come to St Mary's Church where there will be a warm welcome and hospitality.

A small donation would be appreciated but not essential.

Everyone will be welcome



Parish Registers for November

1824

Baptisms

12 George, s of John and Mary Gudgin.

16 William, s of William and Mary Sharman (?).

Marriages

26 George (?) to Elizabeth Kedge.

1874

No baptisms or marriages recorded.

Burials

11 Sarah Stimson, 6.

21 Sarah Amelia Gudgin, infant.

1924

Baptism

02 Beryl Joyce, d of Louis and Emily Bodsworth.

No marriages or burials recorded.

1974

No registers recorded.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS OCTOBER 2024

Burial of Ashes

Oct 10 Sally Elizabeth Frosdycke Myers, died aged 86.

Letter to the Editor

May I use the columns of spotlight to **thank residents** for the award of the Chairmans Prize from Clophill Parish Council. During my years on the council, I have been involved in a number of interesting projects affecting our village. For example:

- Retention of the Clophill Lakes site for the Greensand Trust to manage to benefit our village
- Formalising the public footpaths throughout the village
- Retention of the A507 footbridge
- Establishment of the village hall
- Support for Clophill pre school
- Latterly pressing for a 20mph scheme throughout the village.

Regretfully, I have now stood down on health grounds, but would encourage other residents to apply either to be a member of the Parish Council or the Village Hall team.

Finally, you will find it to be very rewarding and great value to the village.

Kind Regards,

Ralph Brough



Westoning Players

at Westoning Village Hall

34 Church Road, Westoning Beds MK45 2JL

“AIRFIELD”

&

“BETRAYAL”

two comedies by Bob Tucker



Thu. 28th Nov. 7:30pm [includes light meal]

Fri. 29th Nov. 7:30pm [includes light meal]

Sat. 30th Nov, 2:30pm [includes light meal]



Tickets £15

[includes food]

+ Bar + raffle

website

Box Office: **01525 719695** [Opens 28th Oct.]

Reserve by Email: thewestoningplayers@gmail.com

Website for info: www.westoning-players.co.uk

Please tell Box Office **when BOOKING** of light meal choice: **REGULAR** or **VEGETARIAN**

Please make cheques payable to **Westoning Players** & send to:

WP Box Office: c/o 10, Sampshill Road Westoning MK45 5LF

What's on in and around Clophill

NOVEMBER

Saturday 9th

Coffee and Croissants, Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon.

DECEMBER

Sunday 1st

Xmas lights switch on, The Green, 3pm – 6pm. *See poster.*

Monday 2nd

Greensand Community Choir Xmas concert, St Mary's Church, 7:30pm. *See poster.*

Thursday 5th

Flower Club meeting, Village Hall, 6:45pm for 7:30pm start. *See poster.*

Saturday 7th

Xmas Coffee and Croissants, GS Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon. *See poster.*

Thursday 19th

Xmas Lunch, St Mary's Church, 12noon – 2pm. *See poster.*

Plus....

Weekdays during term time

* Clophill Community Hub is open, Village Hall, 9am to 3pm.

Also open on Saturdays 10:30am to 2:30pm.

Mondays...

* Greensand Community Choir, St. Mary's Church, 7:30-9pm.

Wednesdays...

* Tea and Chat, Greensand Community Methodist Church, 10:30am – 12noon.

* Beverley Court Bingo Night, in the Residents lounge, 7pm. All welcome.

Thursdays...

* Winter warmers – St Mary's Church, 12noon – 2pm followed by....

* Thursday Leisure Club – TLC – St Mary's Church, 2pm.

Fridays ...

* Little Saplings, Stay and Play 9:30am – 11:00am, Acorn Nursery at St. Mary's School.

Fridays... during term time

* Clophill Parent & Toddler Group 10am – 11:30am, Village Hall.

CHURCH SERVICES

Regular services at St Mary's Church, Clophill...

1st Sunday 8am, Holy Communion and 11am, Family Praise

Other Sundays 11am, Parish Communion

Services at GC Methodist Church, Clophill. See noticeboard outside church for dates and times.

1st Sunday United Service 10.30am held at different hubs

2nd Sunday 10.30am Local Preacher

3rd Sunday 9.30am Communion Rev. Wood

4th Sunday 11:00am Rev. Wood

Useful numbers

Gas (Emergency)		0800 111999
Electricity (Emergency)		0800 7838838
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance		999
Water/Sewage (Anglian Water)		0845 7145145
Telephone	(Customer Services) 150	(Faults) 151
Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)		0300 3008049
Benefits Agency (Bedford office)		01234 361500
Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)		0300 3008089
Rail (Enquiries)		0845 7484950
Buses 01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
Luton Airport		01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479
LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)		0300 300 8000
Mid-Bed; MP	Alistair Strathern	TBA
Central Bedfordshire Councillors	Susan Clinch	0300 300 8516
	Gary Summerfield	0300 300 8561
	Mark Smith	0300 300 8541
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) Heather Myott clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	07888 685 886
HOSPITALS		
Bedford (North & South)	01234 355122	Admissions 01234 261150 Appointments 01234 359012
Luton & Dunstable		0845 1270127
DOCTOR'S CLINICS		
Amphill	(Houghton Close) 01525 300898	(Oliver Street) 01525 631395 (Greensands) 01525 631390
Shefford	Enquiries 01462 818620	Appointments 01462 810034
Barton	01582 528700	Flitwick 01525 715300
POLICE		
County Police HQ		Non Emergency 101
Amphill Station		01234 841212 101
CHURCHES		
St Mary's Parish Church		
Revd Cannon Lynda Klimas	rev.l.klimas@btinternet.com	01525 403139
(Church Warden) Mrs Anne Shegog	anneshegog@gmail.com	01525 864868
St Francis RC Church, Shefford		01452 813436
Clophill Methodist Church	Revd Silas Wood, email: swood11@me.com, Mr John Errick	01525 571392 01525 860695
Baptist Churches	(Maulden) Ian Crawford (Shefford) Hazel Arnold	01525 634325 01462 812564
SCHOOLS		
St Mary's C of E Lower School, Nursery & Preschool (Headteacher Mrs K Bingley)		01525 860206
Harlington Upper School, Harlington		01525 755100
Preschool	clophillpreschool@gmail.com (Chris) 07936 006381 or (Imogen)	07765 887868
Redborne Upper School, Amphill		01525 404462
Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Shefford		01462 628800

Village groups

Beverley Court		860920
Brownies	enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk	
Clophill Community Care	Duty Contact	07791 773705
Clophill Heritage Trust	Ali Bradbury	07894 710001
Clophill Parent and Toddler Group		
	Imogen	07765 887868
Clophill Preschool	Imogen	07765 887868
	Chris	07936 006381
Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School, Nursery and Preschool		
	Tracy Hayes	860206
Clophill United Charities	Val Martin	07845 731134
Conservation Group	Brian Adams	862297
Flower Club	Gillian Hill	860539
Funzone After School Club		07903 167493
Greensand Community Choir	Luke	07975 520085
Indoor Carpet Bowls	Tony Meredith	860754
Messy Church	Victoria Higgins	07920 568861
	victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk	
Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)	Mary Milne and Jenny Garnham	
	fosmclophill@gmail.com	
Scouts and Cubs	www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved	
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick	860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marylin Browning	07821 643936

Amphill Health Walks

Fortnightly walks in and around Amphill

Amphill Health Walks are for anyone who wants to get more active. They are about **3 miles long** and last about an hour and a quarter. Everyone walks at their own brisk

pace, with a backmarker to make sure no one is left behind. There may be some hills and in bad weather there might also be some mud but we do our best to minimise this! **The walks are all free and start at 10am. Please note** that dogs are not allowed on the walks and ensure you wear suitable footwear.

22nd November Seasons Garden Centre Wilstead MK45 3HU

For more information contact Mike Fayers on mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk or 01234 832619



Clophill United Charities

Christmas donation to Widow(er)s and Pensioners – December 2024

This year the distribution will take place Saturday 3rd December 11am - 12noon in the Oakley Room, St Mary's Church; and Sunday 4th at 11.00am in Beverley Court. Please note that the Sunday distribution will be for Beverley Court Residents ONLY. Anyone else should visit the Church.

No person or group is entitled to receive this benefit as of right. Please be aware that forthcoming Christmas donations should only be claimed by those widow(er)s and pensioners who are really in need of extra help at an expensive time of year and not by those who don't need it. This will enable us to provide help to others throughout the year. Posters will be displayed in the village during November as a reminder of these times. Please remember too that all through the year, CUC are pleased to be able to help Clophill villagers of all ages in times of hardship. If you, or anyone you know who lives in the village, is experiencing financial hardship please contact me on 01525 860900, in total confidence. *On behalf of the Trustees: Val Martin, Clerk*



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- ◇ Was your Will home made? If so, you could be storing up difficulties for the family and higher tax could be payable.
- ◇ Executors are personally liable. Are they still willing and able?
- ◇ Do you have children under 18? If so, you need to nominate guardians or they become the responsibility of the Local Authority
- ◇ Will your family be able to claim all tax allowances? Many Wills written before 2017 do not allow the full Nil Rate Band to be claimed.
- ◇ Are you in a second marriage? Special provision should be made for blended families.

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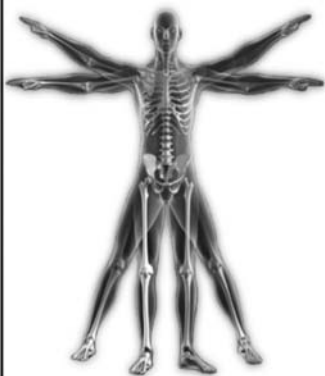
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